



Taurus II – drydocked and ready for the overhaul



Old ladder pen, which gives an idea of the size



MS also worked on the Orion



Special setup for machining the spuds



Pinpoint accuracy was vital...



...to ensure a perfect fit

Straight And True

Cutter suction dredgers might be among the world's toughest ships, but they need regular maintenance to stay that way

Though equipped to work in hot, humid tropical climates like the UAE, **Boskalis** 15,618kW CSD *Taurus II* is no exception, especially given the very hard soil it recently had to dredge for the Ras Laffan LNG project and Dubai's Palm Islands. February found *Taurus II* at Dubai Drydocks for a welcome respite and a comprehensive alignment and maintenance package involving on-site machining.

Carried out by engineers from Dutch specialists **Machine Support** (MS), the work was to last until early April – "It's a major overhaul," said the firm's on-site project manager Lennard Okkerse, "but

as most of the machinery's placed on MS-developed reusable and height-adjustable *Vibracon* chocks, the task of replacing and repositioning engines, pumps and gearboxes is made much easier."

SCOPE OF WORK

The project included laser alignment and 3D measurement with MS working two shifts and 24/7. But the overhaul kicked off with on-site machining of the 800mm ladder pen using a *Climax BB6000* tool that's capable of machining units up to 1,000mm diameter.

Highlights for MS engineers included:
◆ Milling a new foundation for *Taurus*

II's underwater pump – done on-site with *Climax PM6000* equipment

◆ Machining both spuds – new points had to be mounted and pinpoint accuracy was vital for a perfect fit.

Boskalis superintendent Stef Loffeld was impressed: "Machine Support combines a theoretical approach with a practical one. They make the measurements on board, analyse the results and are able to adjust and correct on site. As a result, we have to deal with fewer firms – an advantage in both time and ensuring quality."

FINALLY...

Hardly a surprise then that MS has won contracts for several Boskalis vessels over the past year, including alignment and mounting of TSHD *Seaway's* shaft generator with *Vibracon* chocks.

"The work started in Abu Dhabi and continued in Iran," said Lennard Okkerse, "where we also worked on the CSD *Orion*. And in Bahrain we successfully used *Vibracon* chocks while aligning and mounting a generator for the TSHD *Alpha B*."

More info at www.machinesupport.com + www.boskalis.com



MS engineers at work on Taurus II...

